

NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM LONDON, BERLIN AND PARIS

Berlin's Winter Season Likely To Be One of Extreme Gayety

Clearing of the Atmosphere in American Political Circles and Peace in the Balkans Combine to Make for Unusual Brilliance in Both Circles in German Capital.

MR. AND MRS. GERARD IN MANY GATHERINGS

(SPECIAL DISPATCH) BERLIN, December 6.—ONE of those epidemic influences of which Tolstoy speaks has swept over Berlin society this week. At no time since the opening of the season has the social calendar displayed so contested a condition, and if the late autumn activity may be taken as a forecast of the approaching high season the winter of 1913-14 will be written down in red letters.

Many regard this as a logical rebound from the marked social lethargy of last year, due to the suspense caused in German social circles by the impending conflagration in the Balkans, while Americans were no less disturbed by the unsettled conditions which follow in the wake of each change of administration. With the cloud lifted from both hemispheres there seems to be a general inclination to make up for lost time and social enthusiasm seems to have gathered fresh impetus from this period of enforced inactivity.

The arrival of the new American Ambassador and Mrs. Gerard precipitated an early season of unwanted activity. Every one seems bent upon spending the parting and welcoming the coming guests and the result has been an uninterrupted round of dinners, déjeuners, dances and musicals.

The Smartest Event.

Quite the smartest of these private parties was the large dinner and dance given by the Honorable Mary Portman and Miss Amy Hale for Mr. and Mrs. Gerard and Mr. and Mrs. Thackara. The guests further included the British Ambassador, Sir Edward Goschen, Frau Anna von Rath, Baron von Eissen, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Magnis, Mrs. Robert Tornow, Miss Eleanor Thackara, Miss Margaret Payne Luce, Major George T. Langhorne, Mr. John B. Monk, the Secretary of the Legion, Mr. Raider, and Mrs. Arthur Magnus.

Many additional guests came in for the dancing, the tango being barred from the programme until the official personages had withdrawn. The exceptionally graceful manner in which this dance was interpreted by Miss Eleanor Thackara and Miss Margaret Luce, with their attendant cavaliers, would have completely dispelled the criticism of the most violent anti-tango minds.

Among the later guests were Earl and Lady Granville, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clark Grew, the American Naval Attaché and Mrs. Gerard, Herr Felix von Weingartner, the distinguished conductor and his American wife, Mme. Marcel Weingartner, Mrs. Anna B. McElvee, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen S. McFadden and Miss Helen McFadden and Mrs. Roy McElree, of Hamburg.

Biggest German Affair.

The outstanding event in German social circles was the big charity tea given in the Zoological Garden restaurant for the benefit of the poor of the educated classes. The German Crown Princess was present, looking lovely in a white satin gown and veil.

BIGGEST FIRM IS London Expects Not on Telephone Big Christmas

Messrs. Joseph Rodgers & Co., of Shopkeepers, as Well as Hotel Men, Sheffield, Cutlers, Succeed and Boys and Girls, Are Now Eager.

(SPECIAL DISPATCH) LONDON, December 6.—WE are probably the only big firm in England who are not on the telephone. Yet it has made no difference to their success."

Such was the opinion expressed by a prosperous Sheffield merchant concerning the biggest cutlery firm in Sheffield—Messrs. Joseph Rodgers & Co.

It was London's trying telephone service which prompted the remark, and the merchant went on to tell of a journey to the famous cutlery works, which occupies five acres of ground, when he found that, except for an interdepartmental telephone, there is not only no telephone but not a typewriter on the premises. The letters are all written by sedate clerks in a clear, legible handwriting, just as they were in 1852, when the firm was granted its first trade mark.

There are no new labor saving devices to be found, and anything that suggests hunting is strongly deprecated.

"We don't believe in doing anything foolish," said Mr. John Rodgers, the head of the firm. "It is true that we are not on the telephone, although we have telephone communication between the different departments. Some time ago we were on the telephone, but we cut it off."

Other members of the firm expressed themselves in favor of the steady, old-fashioned business methods.

"It is much better to keep safe ground, as we have done for more than two centuries, than to rush wildly ahead," said one. "No doubt if some American business man was in a firm like ours he would try to make things hum, but I am sure he would do more harm than good in the long run."

DAUGHTER OF GERMANY'S "COAL KING" TO BE ENGLISHMAN'S BRIDE



FAULEIN MARIANNE VON FRIEDLANDER-FULD

This young lady is the only child and heir of Herr von Friedlander-Fuld, the Berlin "Coal King," and has recently become engaged to the Hon. John Freeman-Mitford, fourth son of Lord Redesdale. The "Coal King" is said to be worth some \$25,000,000. Arrangements are being made whereby Mr. Freeman-Mitford, who has been in business for some time in Hamburg, will become a partner in his future father-in-law's firm.

NO FUSS OR FRILLS FOR ENGLISH BRIDES IF FASHION OF SIMPLICITY HOLDS GOOD

(SPECIAL DISPATCH) LONDON, December 6.—WHILE sportsmen are busy in the country decreasing the pheasant population, the social activities of London are devoted to charity bazaars and weddings. Princess Christian and the Duchess of Marlborough being the most prominent in the promotion of the former. If the question were asked: "Who is the busiest English princess?" the answer certainly would be "Princess Christian." Though in her sixty-seventh year, wrapped in warm sables, she gets about with astonishing agility, here, there and everywhere. She is a patroness as well as an active worker in innumerable charities and always is sought after to preside at bazaars, for her winning manner invites the most generous of purchases. Her presence each day at the Royal School of Art needlework sale for nearly five hours working busily all the time, was matched by many society women, however enthusiastic they might be.

Besides the Cholmondeley-Paravicini wedding, which started society by being suddenly sprung upon it, there was even a more remarkable wedding in the same church earlier in the week. Everybody was surprised that one of the prettiest girls in society had such a quiet wedding. As Lady Edina Sackville she is one of the prettiest as well as one of the most popular girls in society, while the bridegroom, Mr. David Evan Wallace, of the Second Life Guards, which fortune was mentioned in these despatches recently, was quite the catch of the season. They determined to have a quiet wedding, and only the closest of their relatives were invited. The majority of them walked to the church, and in contrast to the usual society bride, a vision of soft white satin and lace, Lady Edina Sackville walked to the church wearing a plain blue serge skirt, a white lace blouse and a small blue straw hat trimmed with blue feathers. She looked more as if she were going shopping, for in her hands she carried a gold chain purse bag and around her shoulders was thrown a long black fox stole.

The Crowd Amazed. While the King was enjoying the sport the Queen was occupied in making friends of the poor in the neighborhood, calling on them, according to her wont, in their homes. One notable journey was to Middlesex Moor, to the toilworn workers passing their last years in a comfortable home. To the men assembled in the dining room the Queen talked easily in simple, practical language, asking many kindly questions. The brisk moorland air had made the Queen's eyes sparkle and her cheeks rosy. Her seal-skin and ermine coat and black velvet hat with white plumes and violet skirt costume with white gloves made a picture which delighted the old miners. The Queen gave a little sigh of sympathy when told that these men had all begun work before they were nine years old. Before leaving the Queen shook hands with one Thomas Fenwick, seventy-five years old, who boldly offered his hand, and John Clark, eighty-five, made a little speech, saying: "We wish you long life and good health and we all thank you for coming to see us." The Queen smiled and replied: "I am very glad to have come to see you and to know you in your homes."

Keep the Cup. The Queen also entered the cottage of Mary Huntley, eighty-seven, who was overcome by emotion. "I'm so sorry you've lost your husband," said the Queen, and turning to Mrs. Huntley's granddaughter, said: "You must take great care of her." The aged woman shook hands with the Queen, saying quickly: "Good luck to Your Majesty."

At the Old Woman's Home the Queen accepted a cup of coffee. Mrs. Butterfield, afterward was asked for what she would sell the cup and saucer from which the Queen drank. She testily replied: "Money won't buy them." She has put the cup and saucer and spoon in a glass case.

The King and Queen returned to Sandringham from Lambton Castle this week, but not for long, as they are due on December 8 at Chatsworth to stop with the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire for five days. This also is their first call there since their accession.

All the World to Get Its Time from the Eiffel Tower in Paris

International Hour Association Formed in Paris to Give Greenwich Time by Wireless Messages to Ships at Sea and Stations on Land.

(SPECIAL DISPATCH)

PARIS, December 6.—DISCUSSION of great importance, as well from a scientific point of view as from that of the worldwide influence of France, marked the International Hour Conference which has just held its sessions at the Observatory of Paris. The delegates of the countries represented at this meeting signed a document henceforth historic by which there is created an International Hour Association, the headquarters of which are established in Paris.

The city of Light becomes by this fact the hour capital of the world where there will be received, coordinated, analyzed and preserved all the documents relative to the determination, the measuring and the distribution of time. The new agreement, in organizing in Paris itself the centre of time regulation, renders a signal homage to French science, which for several years has especially distinguished itself by sending out Hertzian signals radiated from the gigantic antenna formed by the Eiffel Tower, under the judicious direction of Commandant Pierie, with the collaboration of the Observatory and of the Bureau of Longitude, signals which bring to ships isolated in foggy seas the hour of Paris and sometimes their safety.

But who would ever have thought only a quarter of a century ago that serious scientists of all countries would devote a day of profound and peaceful discussions to the fugitive hours, the flight of which, sad or joyous, precious or idle, rules in truth our life?

A Complete Flasco.

When in 1890 the Paris Observatory offered to telegraph the time free of charge to all the cities which should ask for it, there was a complete flasco. It is quite true that at the end of thirty years of courteous and unrewarded manoeuvres, in 1910, seven cities in all had accepted this invitation. The others obstinately turned a deaf ear to it.

But in the meantime the Hertzian waves were discovered. Rapid and light, by an electric spark they are going to change this state of things. With them disappears complicated apparatus of wires, poles and cables. It was soon perceived that these marvelous waves, which are propagated in every direction, which traverse the thickest walls and surround us invisibly with a subtle reservoir of untranslatable thoughts, can be easily held captive. The receiving apparatus is simplified to such an extent that to-day ingenious young fellows construct at very small expense delightful detectors, with which they receive surreptitiously the radio-telegraphic messages of the Eiffel Tower.

A Parisan Amusement.

This has even become an amusement in which many Parisians take part. One bears with curiosity the tic-tacs, short or long, which are sounded in the little receiving apparatus and feels a strange emotion in thinking that at the same moment or almost within a few hundredths of a second—this same ticking is heard in Washington, 6,200 kilometres (3,800 miles) from Paris; in the solitude of the seas by ships which voyage between the Old and the New Continent; and at immense distances in Europe and Africa. It is like a mysterious voice which whispers the same word across space and establishes a tacit accord between all those who hear it, unknown to each other. But the problem of regulating the time has a bearing very much greater than the private interests of amateurs.

Our readers perhaps remember that two

Some Splendid Art To Be Sold at Coming Auctions in London

(SPECIAL DISPATCH)

LONDON, December 6.—THE art collection formed by the late Mr. Walter Lionel Behrens, of Manchester, is one of the most interesting and certainly by far the largest which will be disposed of in the sale rooms this season. Portions are being sent to Christie's, Sotheby's and Messrs. Glendinning's for distribution during December, and even then several more portions will be left for disposal next year.

Mr. Behrens was well known as an indefatigable and clever collector of the smaller objects of Japanese handicrafts—netsuke, inro and other objects in lacquer, sword furniture and similar articles on which the Japanese workmen lavished a skill which, in its way, has never been equalled. In the pursuit of his aim Mr. Behrens spared neither time nor expense. The result was a collection of an extent which is said to surpass any other public or private accumulation.

Among so many it is no easy matter to single out any special examples, but there is the famous netsuke with a curious representation of Christ bearing the cross, one of those rare survivals of Christianity in Japan, which was so ruthlessly stamped out in the early years of the seventeenth century. There are a "Madonna and Holy Child" of the same character, and a very curious "Adam and Eve."

The lacquer is of great interest and value. Several pieces may authentically be attributed to one of the greatest masters, Kōrin, one of which a black lacquer box, 26x20mm, with domed lid, is decorated with a design of twenty-seven cranes and long grass in gold hiramaki and powder in relief. The inro, or medicine boxes, worn in old Japan at the girdle, are not less beautiful and well chosen. The sword furniture, on which, in the days when the sword was the outward and visible sign of national pride and personal honor in

skill, is undoubtedly of high quality, and there also are wondrously wrought Buddhas and other deities of the greatest interest.

But Mr. Behrens did not confine his attention entirely to Japanese. He had a fine taste in furniture, and this section is to be offered at Christie's rooms on December 12. This will include some notable examples of Chippendale and other nineteenth century styles, a remarkable series of chairs dating back much earlier, and one piece probably the finest Jacobean table in existence. This is the famous Unsworth table, dated 1618, made for and for generations in the possession of the Unsworth family, who were among the oldest tenants of the Earls of Derby. It has finely carved on its front a representation of the old family legend of the king and the dragon which gained renown and fame for the Thomas Unsworth who founded the family.

The story goes that the table was carved with the dagger used by the hero, but the workmanship is too fine for credence to be given to this effect of the story teller's imagination. But there is no doubt as to the authenticity and artistic value of the table.

The large and important collection of Chinese blue and white porcelain, Persian and other wares is to be dispersed at Sotheby's rooms before Christmas.

Works for the most part to well worn condition, the number of drawings in Water Colors of the school of the East Mall East contains a higher proportion of good than usual. If the greater number of the 280 drawings represent a conventional outlook on nature and a timid use

of the medium there is a "forward edge" which keeps things moving.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the exhibition is the series of small landscapes by Mr. George Clausen, R. A. Four of these are studies, given, done "out of the open air," so to speak, with a firm, broad sweep of the brush, the truth to nature being the inchoate expression of long acquired knowledge rather than proceeding from apparent care to realize the effect. There are few living painters who could state so much in a summary way as Mr. Clausen in "Near Rome" and "At Mondello, in Sicily."